FARM TOPICS

PLANT TISSUE 'MIRRORS' SOIL

Furnishes an Accurate Test For Essential Minerals.

By DR. GEORGE D. SCARSETH
(Soil Chemist, Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station)

An effective checkup of the "conveyor belts" that supply farm crops with food from the soil can be made during the growing season by means of Tissue Tests. These tests will tell whether the growing plants are receiving their principal nourishment—nitrogen, phosphorus and potash—in balanced amounts.

The tissue test of plants, like the rapid chemical test of the soil, affords a quick diagnosis of plant nutrition or starvation. The proper use of either of these tests make it possible for the farmer more accurately to determine the fertilizer needs of various crops on individual fields.

The tissue test consists of splitting open stalks or leaf stems of corn or other growing crops and cutting out thin pieces of tissue. These pieces are placed in a glass vial containing a chemical agent. The reaction of the chemical to the plant tissue reveals the presence or absence of the necessary plant foods.

Usually six or eight samples representative of the type of plants growing in a field will suffice. Certain parts of a plant give more reliable indications of fertilizer needs than others. In analyzing corn, tissue from the base of the main stalk is best suited for a nitrogen test. For phosphorus, the tip of the main stalk or the main stalk just below the tassel is best, while for potash the base of the leaf at the ear node is most effective.

If the nitrogen supply of corn plants is deficient, the test for nitrates will be negative, while those for phosphates and potash may be hig[h]. The corn plants in such a [fi]eld will be stunted, with [a] sickly, yellowish green color [a]nd tend to mid-

[con]veyor belt" [te]sts are likely to [be] negative and potash high. Physical [sy]mptoms of such plants dark green in color with spindly growth, but with leaves otherwise normal.

When potash is insufficient, tests will show nitrates and phosphorus both high while potash is low. Plants will be weak, dark green in color with leaves showing a marginal scorch.

AGRICULTURE IN INDUSTRY

By Florence C. Weed

(This is one of a series of articles showing how farm products are finding an important market in industry.)

Milk

It is a modern miracle that a [co]w can tip his hat made of milk [a]nd still live. Following [ex]tensive research [ha]ve produced a "milk [fa]bric" they claim is much [st]ronger than the foreign product. It [ca]n be used for upholstering materials and makes [ex]cellent hats.

In recent years, the ingenuity of [ch]emurgical and dairy scientists has [fo]und ways for 20,000,000,000 [po]unds which once was wasted. It goes into cement for coating paper, making window shades and manufacturing a paste paint which is thinned with water. It is the base for insecticide sprays and a filler for cloth. Textiles, leather tanning, and color plating industries use lactic acid in their manufacturing processes.

Akin to the many food uses are the new milk-derived animal feeds for poultry and livestock. Some ingredients for popular vitamin capsules are also obtained from milk.

Milk plastics are being made into small articles such as buttons, door handles and book ends. Casein is fabricated into lamp bases, backs for pin-up lamps, and bowl diffusers for indirect lighting.

Still in the experimental stage are wines of sherry and sauterne type which can be made from milk whey. A resin made from lactose may be adaptable as lining for food containers.

There is probably more research going on in dairies and creameries than in any other industry, but in spite of the advance, there remain 36,000,000,000 quarts of skimmed milk without a commercial outlet.

Agriculture News

The farmer's share of the consumer's dollar spent for 58 different foods, averaged 42 cents in 1940, compared with 41 cents in 1939 and 40 cents in 1938.

• • •

Farmers of the United States are now passing up every year $150,000,000 of income that could be realized through better management of farm woods, says the U. S. forest service.

FARM TOPICS

CROP ROTATION GOOD ECONOMY

Increasing Yields Repay the Extra Cost, Labor.

By GUY W. MILLER
(Specialist in Rural Economics, Ohio State University)

Farmers who follow crop rotations which maintain or improve the fertility of their soil consistently obtain higher incomes than farmers who follow cropping practices which reduce their soil productivity.

Some farm operators may find it more difficult than others to change their cropping plans to a system that improves soil instead of depleting it, but in the long run, the change will pay. Immediate need of money to pay debts usually is given as the reason for following old crop rotations, but taking the money out of the soil is bad economy in the end.

Farms which have been badly depleted respond slowly to soil improvement practices and it may be possible that the adoption of these practices will reduce farm income temporarily. However, the farmer who expects his land to support himself and family must make up his mind sometime to protect the soil, and the decision should be made early enough to avoid more and costly soil improvement practices.

No rural economist advises farmers to go heavily into debt to buy soil improving materials for a whole farm at once. Applications of lime or of fertilizer can be made on a few acres at a time, and the increased yields from the first acres treated will help pay for materials used in later years on other acres.

In some cases, better use of farm manure or the adoption of cultural practices which stop soil erosion will improve the farm without the expenditure of any money. It also is possible in many cases to feed more of the crops to livestock on the farm and thereby obtain more materials for soil improvement.

Appearance Is Deceiving When Evaluating Farms

Contrary to popular opinion, the appearance of a farm may not be a good indication of its value.

It's true that the condition of farms and buildings in a community may be taken as an indication of the productivity of that area, says H. C. M. Case, head of the economics department of the University of Illinois college of agriculture. But, he explains, a particular farm may show the effects of conditions under which it has been owned and operated.

For example, previous management may add to or detract from the farm's real value. A good soil may show to disadvantage if poorly farmed. In fact, the difference in the value of adjoining farms have been operated over the past 25 or 50 years may greatly affect their present value. Also, a particular type of soil may respond better to one kind of season than another. Fresh paint on buildings may cause one to overlook poor foundations or frames.

Case says it should be considered whether a farm to be purchased is of proper size and adapted to the type of production the farmer wants to follow. He needs to consider whether the farm is located in a good community which will provide the proper opportunity for his family in educational, religious and social aspects. Soil types, control of obnoxious weeds, available water supplies, and the condition of buildings also require consideration.

Grasshopper Threat Smaller This Year

Grasshoppers are less threatening to crops this year than in 1938, 1939, and 1940, Dr. Lee A. Strong, chief of the U. S. bureau of entomology and plant quarantine, predicts. A grasshopper egg survey, on which entomologists forecast infestations of these pests, indicates that in 1941 the 'hoppers will be fewer in numbers and less widespread in area. However, large numbers of grasshoppers are expected in North and South Dakota and western Minnesota.

The grasshoppers will appear also throughout western Kansas and immediately adjoining areas of other states, but not in such large numbers as in the northern part of the Great Plains, Doctor Strong says. Large numbers are expected in parts of California and Nevada, though in limited widely scattered areas.

Horse's Teeth Need Care

At least once during each year a competent veterinarian should examine the teeth of all horses, according to the department of agriculture. Generally all that will be required will be the floating or filing off of the long, sharp corners which are due to uneven wearing. This roughness first causes sore tongues or cheeks, followed by a lack of proper mastication together with digestive troubles. Older horses particularly need proper attention.

SOW TESTING IMPROVES HERD

Permits Systematic Culling Of Low Producers.

By H. G. ZAVORAL
(Extension Animal Husbandman, University Farm, St. Paul)

Swine raisers are realizing that the perfect individual animal is only one of the foundation stones of a good hog business. Getting more pigs per sow and getting quick, cheap gains from these pigs is equally important. That is why sow testing is becoming as much a part of the successful swine business as butterfat testing has been in dairying.

Sow testing is not difficult. It can be carried out by the hog raiser himself if he will take the trouble. The procedure is this:

1. Mark all the sows before farrowing so that they can be identified in records.

2. Within a week after farrowing, mark the pigs with ear notches, so that each litter can be distinguished. At the same time a record should be set up for each litter, giving sire, dam, and number of pigs of each sex.

3. Each litter of pigs should be weighed again at weaning time (56 days is the customary age for making this comparison). The weight of litters at 56 days is in itself a very accurate basis for judging the production of sows, although the hog man can carry his records further by getting separate weights on litters at market time.

Having compiled production records on all his sows for the season, the hog raiser is then in a position (1) to cull out the old sows that did not produce well, and (2) to select gilts from the best litters to keep over.

For the breeder of purebred stock, the records assume extra importance in determining the value of boars. Already in many communities, boars from tested herds are commanding premium prices.

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1. SAME Double-Width Dessert Tray
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8. SAME Cold Control and Safety Cycle Defroster
9. SAME F-114 Refrigerant—Safest Known
10. SAME 5-Year Protection Plan

• You can't match this for refrigerator value! Think of it—at this sensational low price you get 14 of the top quality construction and convenience features you'd expect to find only in much higher priced models. And many of the features are exclusive—you'll find them in no other make of refrigerator.

This amazing bargain offers other important advantages. There's one full shelf more than "6's" of most other makes . . . a big cold storage tray . . . and a new facts label—you know what you get before you buy! See this great Frigidaire value at our store, today!

• Come In! See Proof! Frigidaire gives you more for your money—Inside and Out!

Lester B. Harvey — Appomattox, Va.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT—Splendid apartment in residence of Mrs. W. R. Reynolds. Modern conveniences. See MRS. W. R. REYNOLDS

FOR RENT—Apartment in the residence of Mrs. W. P. Reynolds. Modern conveniences. Mrs. W. R. Reynolds

Notice— This is to serve notice that on July 1, 1941, I will apply to the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for license to retail beer off and on premises.

L. A. Young, prop.,
L. & N Center,
Appomattox, Va.

(5-29-1tc)

Send us local news items. They must be signed by writer and be in our hands Tuesday afternoon.

STEADY WORK—GOOD PAY RELIABLE MAN WANTED to call on farmers in Appomattox County. No experience or capital required. Write McNESS CO., Candler Bldg. Baltimore, Md. (5-22-2tp)

NOTICE: Let us furnish your next rubber stamp and pad.
The Times-Virginian.

Farm Notes

In a frozen food locker, if temperatures rise above zero, odors may transfer from one food to another.

• • •

Nearly one-half of the 21,000,000 American youths between 16 and 24 live on farms or in villages.

• • •

All eggs produced by any one hen tend to be of a similar size, shape, color, though they may vary somewhat.

• • •

A recent study shows that 10 cows producing 300 pounds of fat annually make as much profit as 18 200-pound producers.

FOR SALE: Two good milk cows. See,
L. E. SMITH

Instruction
Learn Beauty Culture in Virginia's largest beauty schools . . . Operators earn more than any other profession . . . complete course only $49.50. Write for complete information. Mayfair Beauty College in Roanoke and Lynchburg, Virginia. (5-29-4tc)

GETTING THE MOST FROM USED CAR PURCHASE

Some used car buyers get no satisfaction than others. Quite often the difference depends on the willingness of the dealer to consider the buyer's interest. Those who buy here not only get an outstanding value, but permanent satisfaction. Come in and see

1940 Plymouth Deluxe Sedan with heater and low mileage.
1939 Plymouth Road King Coupe with heater and good tires.
1940 Dodge Deluxe Sedan heater and seat covers.
1939 Dodge Deluxe Sedan. Like new, tires good.
1938 Dodge Deluxe Coach. Excellent condition, good tires and heater.
1939 Chevrolet Master Deluxe Sedan. Runs as good as new.
1940 Oldsmobile 6 Sedan. Good tires, finish like new.

TRUCKS

1940 International 1-2 ton Pickup, driven only 90,000 miles.
1940 Dodge 3-4 ton Pickup with good tires, finish good.
1937 Dodge 1 1-2 ton Long Wheel Chassis and cab, good tires.

JOHN P. HUGHES MOTOR COMPANY, INC.
Phone 2304 800 Commerce St.
Lynchburg, Va.

Lights of New York

by L. L. STEVENSON

Ears: The other afternoon, a mess man whose reserve—his pa calls it shyness—when it to meeting or conversing with or sex is well known, finding ppointments would keep him office late, telephoned his wife st him in a midtown restau- for dinner. After the meal, took the subway uptown and they left the train, the wife re- ered that they didn't have enough for the morning toast. a little search they found a that was still open. The hus- enjoying a smoke, said he wait outside. Well, he wait- waited. Finally becoming tient, he went into the bakery counter of which was crowded women. But he spotted a back familiar. Going up, he ered, "Don't buy too much, heart." And the young girl turned around indignantly was a wife.

• • •

et Scene: A sign painter, carefully with precious leaf, lettering a window . . . A girl, sitting on a nearby stoop, with a battered old doll . . . group of school youngsters saun- along, their arms loaded with chattering and happenings classroom . . . A vegetable carefully turning tomatoes green parts didn't show . . . A mith busily turning out a key is little soda-fount shop while omer waits impatiently . . . young men idling on the cor- discussing the Yankees' 1941 ant chances . . . The sign se finishes his work . . . In- of putting his tools away, he the doll from the little girl After a few deft brush strokes, ands it back with a smile . . . the little girl cries with delight seemingly by a miracle, her has gobbin her.

• • •

for City Note: One of this de- ent's Detroit scouts reports the recent primary jogged her ory in regard to an election in- A Woodstock avenue resi- was so interested in the elec- that he remained away night night working for his favorite idate. Finally the votes were ed and the next night, instead ing out, he settled down in an chair. His six-year-old daugh- ared at him in amazement for le while, then asked him if he ded to stay at home.

es, Carol," replied the father. ll evening, daddy?"

ess."

ell," remarked the child grave- thank God for that."

• • •

erry-Go-Round: Staying away B'way for another paragraph, is a Washington happening as rted by Bill: As he was on his to the office the other morning, essenger boy came up and asked how to get to a certain address. had just started to give direc- when an out-of-town car ped and the driver asked the how to get to another address. ost hesitation, the boy told him then turned to Bill for the rest is instructions. And the inci- Bill maintains, still gives him rt of whirling sensation.

• • •

orld War Yarn: They were talk- about the last war. Two Amer- officers who had had a tough at the front were relaxing in rench village where they were sted in one of the few two-story ses. Lieutenant X had a dinner agement which turned out to be a party. When he finally de- d it was bedtime, the stairway ked and slid under his feet so t his progress was a series of s and partial recoveries. He y made the room in which he Captain Z had cots and, shaking explain wide awake, managed to ke him understand that a friend theirs was falling upstairs and ded help. The captain investi- ted but found nobody. The situa- n began to clear up in the morn- when the lieutenant was nursing scraped and discolored shins. you were negligent in not com- ting your report," the captain d. "A lieutenant had been fall- upstairs but he had the right irit and finished the job. Here's me arnica."

• • •

nd Piece: Harvard boys recent- got newspaper space again by minating the girl with whom they uld not like to be stranded on a sert isle. What several Yale ends of this department would like know is what gal, in her right mses, would want to be stranded a desert isle with a Hah-vahd an.

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

New Breeding Process Aids Growth of Trout

SEATTLE, WASH.—Trout fishermen who recount their alleged prowess soon may find themselves telling fact instead of fancy.

Dr. Ivaren R. Donaldson of the University of Washington school of fisheries announced that he is breeding trout that grow to maturity in just half the time of the ordinary species.

FARM TOPICS

ORCHARDS NEED AMPLE NITROGEN

Vital Element Is Essential For Heavy Growth.

By E. F. SERR
(Extension Horticulturist, University of California)

Springtime is time for fruit growers to think of nitrogen. Fruit trees draw heavily on soil supplies of nitrogen while making heavy spring growth. Deficiencies are likely to develop, especially when most of the nitrogen is tied up in a cover crop. Consequently, early fertilizer applications are often needed to carry the trees through in good condition. The foliage of trees suffering from lack of nitrogen is pale yellow rather than bright green in color. Usually the individual leaves are also smaller and the tree has a more open appearance, the foliage being relatively sparse in comparison with the dense growth of normal trees. The shadows cast by trees well supplied with nitrogen are noticeably darker than those of trees whose nitrogen supplies are low.

Supplies of available nitrogen in the soil vary greatly throughout the year. They tend to be high in late winter and low in early spring. This brings the low point in supply at the time trees need the largest quantities in order to make spring growth.

A late growing cover crop will increase the natural shortage of nitrogen because it will tie up large quantities used in its growth. This may not become available to the trees for a considerable time after the green manure has been turned under. When the cover crop is allowed to become mature additional nitrogen will be tied up while soil organisms are decomposing the woody material. These organisms actually take up more nitrogen from the soil. This competition for nitrogen from late growing cover crops is especially important in unirrigated orchards where summer rainfall is light or does not occur at all.

Nitrogen fertilizers applied early enough so that the nitrates are available in sufficient quantities during the period of rapid spring growth have been found effective and profitable in many areas. Peaches are especially responsive to fluctuations in the nitrogen supply in the soil.

Broody Chickens Waste Feed, Lower Egg Profits

A nest of broody birds is a sign of poor poultry management, says J. C. Taylor, associate extension poultryman at the New Jersey college of agriculture, Rutgers university. With the prevailing narrow margin of profits in the poultry business, no poultryman can afford to tolerate broodiness in his laying flock, he reminds poultry owners.

"It should be remembered that for every day a broody bird stays on the nest, it takes three days to break up her broodiness," Taylor points out.

"Good management requires the removal of all birds showing any tendency to broodiness to special pens or coops," he says. "All laying pens should be inspected the last thing in the evening for broody birds. They can be readily identified by their presence on the nests. Brood coops in individual pens provide a satisfactory way of confining them, or if the number is large the use of a summer shelter for confining the broody birds is very satisfactory.

"It is not advisable to restrict any of the feed in an effort to break up broodiness. Confining the birds in small coops is all that is necessary. The important point is to remove them from the nests at the first indication of broodiness."

Sudan Safe Pasture If Caution Is Used

To farmers who are wondering whether or not it is safe to pasture cattle on Sudan grass, W. L. Boyd, chief of the veterinary division at University farm, St. Paul, advises that there is little or no danger from prussic acid (cyanide) poisoning as a result of feeding this crop.

Exhaustive tests by members of the veterinary staff have failed to develop a single case of poisoning where Sudan alone was fed to stock. With sorghum or cane, however, the situation is different. Under some conditions sorghum is a very dangerous feed and even if there is only a little of it mixed with the Sudan pasture trouble may result.

Feeding Iodine to Cattle

The most convenient method of feeding iodine to dairy cattle is to combine it with salt at the rate of about one ounce of potassium iodide to 300 pounds of salt. To facilitate mixing this small quantity of iodine, first mix one ounce with eight ounces of slaked lime or cornstarch.

Another method of feeding iodine is to use the iodine tablets that you can secure from the regular veterinary supply houses, dissolving these in water as recommended.

My Neighbor SAYS:

A saucerful of quicklime placed in a damp closet or cupboard will absorb all dampness.

• • •

When sweeping a room, open all the windows and sweep toward the center of the room. This prevents the dust from settling on the woodwork and the walls do not get so dusty as they otherwise would.

• • •

To make a cake richer, always beat the eggs, butter and sugar together, and then add the flour, fruit and other ingredients. Care should be taken to sift the baking powder or soda into the dry flour before adding the rest of the ingredients.

• • •

To remove glue stains from washable articles, wash the soiled article out as quickly as possible in hot water and mild soapsuds. If the material is not washable, sponge it thoroughly with white vinegar applied on a small sponge or soft brush.

(Associated Newspapers—WNU Service.)

Beckham Items

Beckham, May 26.- Vegetables are suffering intensely for want of rain. Only a few have planted tobacco and had to hand plant that. Right much hail, while not so large, fell in the vicinity of Beckham Friday morning but not much and that only extended over a small area.

Rev. and Mrs. T. E. Johnson were guests Sunday of Mrs. E. C. Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Weakley are expecting the former's sister, Mrs. G. C. Wilmer, of New Glasgow next Thursday to spend several days in their home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Morris and family spent Sunday in Lynchburg with her sister, and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Hurley Ferguson.

Mesdames T. R. and Winston Martin were visitors last Monday evening in the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Grow.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Gardner were week-end visitors of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Martin, for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Len Martin were supper guests last Friday of his mother, Mrs. E. C. Martin.

Mesdames T. M., H. O. and R. B. Martin and Mrs. M. W. Moore spent last Thursday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Megginson, visiting their sister-in-law, Mrs. Alice Grow, who has been on the sick list for quite a while. We are glad to say she was able to accompany Mrs. M. Martin home and will visit other relatives during her stay in the neighborhood.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Morris and family, Mr. and Mrs. Winston Martin and Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Martin, Jr., visited Mrs. Evans Ferguson and family and Mr. and Mrs. Jutson Morris Sunday week.

Mr. and Mrs. James Grow were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Winston Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Steppe and son were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Martin last week-end.

Mrs. B. G. Anderson, of Appomattox, Mrs. A. F. Drinkard, Mrs. H. R. Moore and Mrs. T. R. Martin Jr. were dinner guests Friday of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Moore. In the afternoon, others came for the home demonstration club meeting.

J. B. Whitehead recently visited his sister, Mrs. George Metts, of Amherst.

Ronald Bell, who works in Baltimore, was home for the week-end, and attended preaching services at Trinity church Sunday A. M.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Drinkard had as their guests Sunday for dinner, Mr. and Mrs. James Martin and children, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Drinkard and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Howlet Drinkard and family.

Try a Classified Adv.

Help Clean-up and beautify our town!

Gardens need rain badly.

U. S. now has about 1,400,000 men in Army and 300,000 in the Navy.

Bethany Events

Bethany, May 22.- Martha Harvey spent Monday night with Alice Smith, of Appomattox.

Mrs. P. O. Paulette, Curtis Paulette, Mrs. Edward Moore, Miss Rachel Morris and Miss Ora Paulette spent the week-end visiting Private D. E. Paulette, of Camp Craft, South Carolina.

Mrs. B. W. Harvey spent Sunday with Mrs. Ruth Jennings.

Mrs. J. Mott Harvey visited her mother, Mrs. Mildred Clark, Sunday.

Those who visited Mrs. W. C. Paulette Saturday night were Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Willie Carwile, and three sons and Miss Ruth Wastern.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Baker visited Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Harris Saturday evening.

We are looking for all the boys from camp to visit home May 30.

Jack and Dwight Paulette of Portsmouth were home for the week-end.

PERSONAL BRIEFS

Mrs. Mae Ferguson Williamson was taken to Memorial hospital on Monday of last week.

Appomattox needs boosters.

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Deep Rooted in the People's Needs

America confronts an uncertain future, wherein trials and emergencies undoubtedly abide. To steady ourselves we must have faith—faith in our own works, faith also in those with whom and for whom we labor.

The Norfolk and Western has that faith. It knows its own strength, experience and ability. It knows, too, that its roots as an institution are anchored deep in the needs of all the people. So rooted, it asks that we its friends may picture it to others:

NOT as a vast aggregation of capital totaling 578 million dollars; but rather as the combined savings of men and women, some of whom may be living just across our street.

NOT as the employer of more than 20,000 men and women, but rather as the livelihood of some people we know, who trade at our store and send their children to the same school we do.

NOT as the payer of taxes totaling $18,168,000 a year; but rather as a helper to carry the burden of governmental support to which we all contribute.

NOT as the producer of 15 billion, 400 million ton-miles of freight transportation annually; but rather as the carrier that takes our products to market and brings us fuel, clothing and food.

NOT as the producer of 103 million miles of passenger transportation a year; but rather as the carrier that takes us and our neighbors where we want to go and brings us all safely home.

NOT as anything mysterious at all; but rather as a local business, a good citizen and, above all, a good neighbor.

Norfolk and Western Railway